## Message Text

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CONFIDENTIAL STATE 129327

**EXCON** 

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM

SUBJECT: COCOM LIST REVIEW - IL'S 1131(B) AND 1133(A)

REFS: A) COCOM DOC REV (74)1131/1 B) COCOM DOC REV (74)1133/3 C) OECD PARIS 4161

1) IN STUDYING PROPOSALS FOR AMENDING THE EMBARGOES ON CRYOGENIC PUMPS, VALVES AND TUBES, US MILITARY AUTHORITIES HAVE LONG BEEN CONCERNED OVER OPPORTUNITIES WHICH RELAXATION OF THESE EMBARGOES MIGHT OPEN FOR EXPORT OF FLUORINE, DEUTERIUM, HYDROGEN AND HELIUM HANDLING EQUIPMENT INVOLVING EXTRACTABLE TECHNOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANCE IN SUCH FIELDS AS SPACE PROPULSION, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF HYPERSONIC AIRCRAFT, AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THE LATEST AMENDMENTS TO THESE ITEMS WHICH WERE UNDERTAKEN IN THE LAST LIST REVIEW HAD AS THEIR INTENT THE SPECIFIC MELIORATION OF THEIR EFFECTS ON THE COMMERCIAL BIOLOGICAL CONFIDENTIAL

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ELECTRONICS AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES WHEREIN CRYOGENIC REQUIREMENTS DO NOT EXCEED THE TEMPERATURE ASSOCIATED WITH THE NORMAL BOILING POINT OF NITROGEN (MINUS 196 DEGREES C). THE TWO PROPOSALS WHICH ARE

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE INVOLVE EITHER TEMPERATURE OR DESIGN CHARACTERISTICS FOR CRYOGENIC EQUIPMENT OPERATING AT TEMPERATURES CONSIDERABLY IN EXCESS OF THE NITROGEN LEVEL. HOWEVER, NO EXPLANATIONS HAVE BEEN GIVEN OF CHANGED CIVIL OR INDUSTRIAL NEEDS OR USES WHICH REDUCE THE RISKS OF FREEING EQUIPMENT USEABLE AT TEMPERATURES BELOW THE PRESENT COMMERCIAL LEVEL OF MINUS 200 DEGREES C.

- 2) US ADVISERS CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT SUB-ITEMS 1131
  (B) AND 1133(A) HAVE VALIDITY IN DESCRIBING WHAT IS A
  BENCHMARK IN CRYOGENIC ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY. HOWEVER,
  BECAUSE THE POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT THE PRESENT EMBARGO
  AT 200 DEGREES C MAY BE SET TOO NARROWLY TO ACCOMMODATE
  ALL CURRENT COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL USES, US
  AUTHORITIES CAN AGREE TO RELAXATION OF THESE SUB-ITEMS
  TO MINUS 210 DEGREES C WHICH IS THE TRIPLE (OR MELTING)
  POINT FOR NITROGEN. HOWEVER, THEY WOULD OBJECT TO THE
  MINUS 250 DEGREES C FIGURE WHICH HAS BEEN PROPOSED BECAUSE
  IT WOULD DISCONTINUE COVERAGE OVER LIQUID DEUTERIUM
  EQUIPMENT AND VERGE CLOSELY ON THE HYDROGEN AREA WITHOUT
  ANY SPECIFIC JUSTIFICATION HAVING BEEN ADVANCED IN
  TERMS OF CIVIL NEED OR DESCRIPTION OF STANDARD INDUSTRIAL
  EQUIPMENT BY THE PROPOSING MEMBERS.
- 3) IN SUMMARY, US AUTHORITIES CONSIDER THAT THE EXISTING COVERAGE SHOULD CONTINUE BECAUSE OF UNEVEN TECHNOLOGICAL CAPABILITIES AMONG THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES FOR THIS EQUIPMENT WHICH THEY BELIEVE TO BE SUBJECT TO THE FIRST STRATEGIC CRITERIA. THE PROPOSALS TO AMEND IT GO TOO FAR TOWARD RELEASING SENSITIVE AREAS FROM CONTROL FOR EQUIPMENT THAT WOULD BEST BE DEALT WITH THROUGH THE GENERAL EXCEPTIONS PROCEDURE.
- 4) DEL SHOULD NOTE THAT FOR CONVENIENCE, THESE SUB-ITEMS SHOULD BE CROSS-REFERENCED TO IML-20. DEL IS ALSO REQUESTED TO PROPOSED THAT COVERAGE OF PUMPS, VALVES AND TUBING FOR FLUORINE WHICH ARE UNIQUE IN DESIGN AND CONFIDENTIAL

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CONSTRUCTION BE ADDED AS SEPARATE SUB-ITEMS TO 1131 AND 1133 FOR BALANCE WITH 1110(B) AND 1145(B) AND IN RECOGNITION OF THE SPECIAL MILITARY/STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE OF THAT GAS. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

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